stake in several disinvested companies boosted by the success of the Maruti initial public offer; and

(b) if so, the companies being considered for such disinvestment, its present percentage of holding and its value?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The PSUs being considered for disinvestment of residual shares through the Offer for Sale route are listed below along with the residual shareholding of the Government. The value of residual shareholding varies depending on several factors including market conditions.

Name of Company	Percentage of residual shareholding
1. CMC Limited	26%
2. VSNL	26%
3. IBP Limited	26%
4. IPCL	33.95%
5. BALCO	49%

Policy of IPO for disinvestment

461. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to adopt the policy of issuing Initial Public Offer (IPO) for the disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings instead of the old method of strategic sale of equity shares; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the IPOs proposed to be issued after the Maruti offer?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government approves the disinvestment strategy as appropriate includmg both Strategic Sale and Public Offer either

independently or jointly depending on the specific requirements of each case. Government has approved the disinvestment of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) through a Public Offer of 25.2% of the equity through American Depository Receipts and 10% in the Domestic Market. The disinvestment of Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCI) through a Public Offer of 20% of the equity has been approved. Government has also decided to sell its residual shareholding through the Offer for Sale route in five PSUs (CMC Ltd., Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL), IBP Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) and Bharat Aluminium Co. Limited (BALCO) which were earlier disinvested through Strategic Sale.

Disinvestment of PSUs

†462. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings disinvested so far and the purpose therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that efforts are being made to sell Public Sector Undertakings on the prices lower than the actual prices;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to amend or improve the disinvestment process; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) During the period 1991 -92 to 1999-2000, Government had disinvested a minority stake in 39 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) through market sale of shares, out of which 4 PSUs were subsequently disinvested through a process of strategic Sale alongwith transfer for management control to a Strategic Partner. In addition to these 4 PSUs, during the period 1999-2000 till now, 7 PSUs, 19 hotel properties of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) and 3 hotel properties of Hotel Corporation of India (HCL) were subsequently disinvested through the process of Strategic Sale. The purpose of disinvestment is to unleash the productive potential of public sector enterprises, release resources required by the Government for modernization and upgradation of PSUs,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.